

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, after the title insert the following:

This application is the US national phase of international application **PCT/FI2003/000599** filed **12 August 2003** which designated the U.S. and claims benefit of **FR 02/10258**, dated **13 August 2002**, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 30, which starts with "To do this," and add the following new paragraph in place thereof as follows:

To do this, the invention proposes a biodegradable fibrous support for mulching of the soil, the support being provided with a reinforcing means in the form of a grid, characterized in that the grid is produced of a biodegradable polymer chosen from the group comprising polylactic acid, polycaprolactone, viscose, modified viscose, polyhydroxybutyrate and polyhydroxyalcanoate, by themselves or as a mixture, the grid being either maintained on the whole or part of at least one support face, or incorporated into the whole or part of the mass of the support.